

TOPIC Polish engineer Unit in Brief

25X1 EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
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- 25X1 1. [] an engineer training area on the western bank of the Oder river, southeast of Brief (P 51/H 89). About 250 Polish soldiers were seen practicing with pontoons and doing bridge construction work. A total of 10 to 12 large pontoons, 8 to 10 small pontoons and 5 motorboats painted brown-green were observed. Near an open shed there were 4 to 8 boats lying bottoms up. They resembled the former German assault boats.
2. The training area was immediately southeast of a sugar refinery, between the river and the road to Schonau (P 51/H 89). A concrete wall 2.20 meters high separated the area from the road and a 2 meter wire mesh fence bordered it on the northwest and southeast. A small harbor, 60 x 25 meters, was also available. Installations observed on the site in 1951 included a small three-story dwelling house, a small guardhouse, two wooden sheds for vehicles and pontoons, each of them 40 meters long, a workshop, a brick building used for the storage of gasoline, an open shed with concrete floor, and a concrete slipway, 60 x 25 meters.
3. In 1948, the engineer training area was turned over to the Poles by the Soviets. By 1951, the Polish engineer unit stationed there was equipped with uniform military bridge building equipment. Large three-section pontoons about 12 meters long and light metal pontoons about 8 meters long were seen.
4. The barracks installation of the engineer unit was southwest of the training area, on the west side of the road to Paulau (P 51/H 89), immediately southeast of the spur track to the sugar refinery. The installation covered an area measuring about 350 x 180 meters and consisted of 1 four-story grey headquarters building with a red roof, another similar building used for administrative purposes, 1 two-story guardhouse, 1 small workshop, 2 permanent garages, a fuel dump, 1 wooden drill hall, and 2 large five-story quartering buildings with red roofs. A target range with an attached guardhouse and a two-story ordnance shop bordered on the barracks installation to the southeast. Prior to the fall of 1951, [] Polish troop units marching from the barracks installation to the engineer training area.

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- 25X1 1. [] Comment. The report confirms the presence in Brief of a Polish engineer regiment, probably the 1st Eng Regt. The barracks installation described in the present report is the Seydlitz or Mudra Kaserne.

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